

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /064 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4648

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 5180

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS/ SOPN, MARR, KS, US

SUBJ: PRESS CONTINUES BROAD BALANCED COVERAGE OF TROOP WITHDRAWAL
ISSUE

REF: SEOUL 5079 (DTG 180251Z JUN 77)

1. KOREAN PRESS HAS CONTINUED BROAD COVERAGE OF DEBATE IN
U.S. OVER WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS AND OF RELATED
DEVELOPMENTS IN KOREA.

2. STORIES THROUGH JUNE 21 INCLUDED EXCERPTS OF COMMENTS
FROM MANY U.S. PERSONALITIES, INCLUDING SENATORS GOLDWATER,
PERCY, DOLE, ALLEN AND NUN; SECRETARY VANCE (ABC-TV
INTERVIEW), TURNER APPEARANCE BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEE, AND GRANUM PRESS CONFERENCE. COMMENTS
SHOWED BOTH CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN THAT WITHDRAWAL BE
CONSIDERED CAREFULLY AND ADMINISTRATION'S DETERMINATION
TO PROCEED. EDITORIALS HAVE PRESENTED BALANCED, REALISTIC PICTURE,
POINTING OUT THAT BYRD AMENDMENT, WHILE HAVING NO BINDING FORCE
ON PRESIDENT, REPRESENTED CONGRESSIONAL RESERVATION OVER ISSUE.
HAN'GUK ILBO NOTED CARTER CAN IGNORE CONGRESSIONAL FEARS, BUT
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ONLY BY RUNNING POLITICAL RISK IN NEXT ELECTION, OFFICIAL SEOUL
SINMUN NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT BYRD AMENDMENT "CAN HARDLY
CHANGE CARTER'S PHASEOUT PLAN DRASTICALLY".

3. PRESS ALSO CARRIED SPECULATION ON WHETHER ROKG WAS PLANNING
TO PROMOTE ROK-US FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING FOR CONFERENCE
ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND WHETHER ROKG AND GOJ WOULD ADDRESS

KOREAN SECURITY ISSUE AT ANNUAL ROK-JAPAN MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. IN OTHER RELATED STORIES PRESIDENT PARK'S PRESENCE AT A MEETING TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF ROK DEFENSE INDUSTRIES PRODUCED A NUMBER OF STORIES WHICH SEEMED AIMED AT STRENGTHENING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN KOREA'S ABILITY TO BOLSTER ITS OWN DEFENSE, AND A MEETING OF HIGH RANKING KOREAN ARMY COMMANDERS LED TO STORIES WHICH UNDERLINED ROK MILITARY'S DETERMINATION TO REPEL POTENTIAL AGGRESSION AT THE NATION'S BORDERS.

4. PRESS COVERAGE, WHILE TO SOME EXTENT REFLECTING DEEP-SEATED HOPE OF MANY KOREANS THAT SOMEHOW WITHDRAWAL DECISION MIGHT BE REVERSED, HAS ALSO PROVIDED ENOUGH FACTUAL MATERIAL TO INFORM PUBLIC THAT REVERSAL NOT LIKELY. PRESS HAS EXHIBITED NO INHIBITIONS IN HANDLING ISSUE, AND NO ORCHESTRATION OF MEDIA TREATMENT IS DISCERNIBLE.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770631/aaaabako.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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